



ಸುಗ್ರಾಮ

ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ ಸಂಘ-ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ (ಲಿ)

MANIFESTO - 2014-15

SUGRAMA SAMAVESHA – MAY 27-28, 2014

SUGRAMA – Grama Panchayat Chunayitha Mahila Prathinidhigala Sangha – Karnataka is a federation representing the rights and interests of Elected Women Representatives (EWRs) of Grama Panchayats (GPs) of Karnataka. **On May 27, 2014 SUGRAMA members – Elected Women Representatives of 287 Grama Panchayats (GPs) of 46 taluks of 17 districts of Karnataka gathered in Bangalore to discuss the issues hindering effective governance and administration in Grama Panchayats.**

The members formulated the manifesto for the year considering the issues of the Grama Panchayats and the problems pertaining to women, as given below:

Rural Development and Panchayati Raj:

1. **33% reservation for women in the Parliament** as they have greatly benefitted from the reservation for women in Grama Panchayats and are able to actively participate in public life as political leaders.
2. **A full five year term for the post of the President and Vice President** as is constitutionally mandated for Presidents and Vice Presidents across the country.
3. Increased **honorarium for President, Vice President and Ward members** to the amount of Rs 5000, Rs 3000 and Rs 2000 respectively.
4. **Reservation for elected representatives** in panchayats should be for two consecutive terms.
5. To implement **formula based allocation of grants to the GPs**. This should be based on demographic profile, development indicators and various other social and economic contexts of the GPs.
6. To allocate **untied grants to GPs** so that elected representatives can prioritize and allocate the resources depending on requirements of the panchayat.
7. **Restricted funding specifically for women** to be allocated in all panchayats. There is also a need to ensure that **Gender Budget Cells** are set up in the departments at the taluk & district levels.
8. Ensure representation of **Gram Panchayat Elected Representatives in KDP meetings**, with equal participation of men and women.
9. **Direct elections** to the post of Grama Panchayat President.
10. Ensure effective implementation of **Belur Declaration**.

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Women and Child Development:

1. Ensure effective implementation of **The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013** in all workplaces where women work. **Additional measures should be taken to recognize Grama Panchayats as a workplace.**
2. There is an urgent need to **appoint separate Protection Officers and Child Marriage Prohibition Officers** with adequate budgetary allocation for its implementation, as per Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005 and Child Marriage Prohibition Act 2006 at the taluk level.
3. **Fast track investigation and redressal of cases** related to violence against women.
4. Ensure an **enabling environment for women during panchayat elections**. This includes keeping a vigilant eye on incidences of violence during elections.
5. **Sahayavani centres** should be expanded across all police stations in Karnataka. Additionally, a **24/7 should be operational** at these centres.
6. **State Women's Commission** to be made more accessible for women from rural areas by appointing member representatives at the taluk/district level. There is also a need to ensure that the Commission fulfills its mandate through proper mechanisms and policies as mandated under Karnataka State Commission for Women Act 1995.
7. There is an urgent need for **Legal awareness and Educational Programmes** for women on their rights especially in the rural areas.
8. A larger concerted effort by the government is needed to **challenge and change patriarchal mindsets and gender stereotypes** prevailing in schools and colleges by making school and college curricula gender sensitive.
9. **Gender sensitization training** should be conducted for **local government officials, police, and judiciary.**

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